



MUTUAL HOUSING  
ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

*"Building our communities with respect, integrity, and aloha..."*

Kekaulike Courtyards ♦ Ko'oloa'ula ♦ Lihu'e Court Townhomes ♦ Palolo Homes

May 27, 2015

The Honorable Anthony Foxx  
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Mutual Housing Association of Hawai'i, Inc. ("Mutual Housing") strongly supports the County of Kaua'i's TIGER grant application to complete the Lihu'e Town Core Mobility and Revitalization Project.

Mutual Housing is a non-profit property development and management organization dedicated to providing quality, safe, and affordable rental apartments for households earning less than the median income for the State of Hawai'i. Our affiliate owns and operates Lihu'e Court Townhomes which is located within the project area.

The County of Kaua'i was successful in their application to receive a CDBG grant to build a shared use path on our property between Hoala and Rice Street. The TIGER application will complete pedestrian access from Lihu'e Court Townhomes by constructing sidewalks on Hoala and Kalena Streets. These sidewalk improvements, along with the shared use path, will greatly improve access for our residents to education, jobs and services.

Our population of residents would be classified as very low-income and earn well below the median income. Transportation costs are one of several financial challenges they face. Reducing these costs by improving the conditions for walking, biking and access to transit will be of significant benefit to our residents. Many of our residents are families with school-age children who attend Wilcox Elementary School. The proposed TIGER improvements will connect to the complete streets improvements on Hardy Street that are currently under construction and will provide a safe route to school for our residents. For adults, access will be improved to pursue higher education at Kaua'i Community College and to regional employment areas without the need for a car.

There will be many benefits from this project provided to the residents of our community. We thank you for your consideration and hope that you will look favorably on the application for this outstanding project.

Sincerely,

David M. Nakamura  
Executive Director